

SPECIAL TARIFF POSITION OF PHILIPPINES

Exchange of notes at Washington May 4 and October 7, 1946

Entered into force October 7, 1946

*Terminated May 19, 1950*¹

61 Stat. 2441; Treaties and Other
International Acts Series 1572

The Acting Secretary of State to the Dominican Chargé d'Affaires ad interim

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

WASHINGTON

May 4 1966

SIR:

With reference to the forthcoming independence of the Philippines on July 4, 1946, my Government considers that provision for a transitional period for dealing with the special tariff position which Philippine products have occupied for many years in the United States is an essential accompaniment to Philippine independence. Accordingly, under the Philippine Trade Act approved April 30, 1946,² goods the growth, produce or manufacture of the Philippines will enter the United States free of duty until 1954, after which they will be subject to gradually and regularly increasing rates of duty or decreasing duty-free quotas until 1974 when general rates will become applicable and all preferences will be completely eliminated.

Since the enactment of the Philippine Independence Act approved March 24, 1934,³ my Government has foreseen the probable necessity of providing for such a transitional period and has since then consistently excepted from most-favored-nation obligations which it has undertaken toward foreign governments advantages which it might continue to accord to Philippine products after the proclamation of Philippine independence. Some thirty instruments in force with other governments, for example, permit the continuation of the exceptional tariff treatment now accorded by my Government to Philippine products, irrespective of the forthcoming change in the Commonwealth's political status.

¹ Date on which the Dominican Republic became a contracting party to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (TIAS 1700, *ante*, vol. 4, p. 641).

² 60 Stat. 141.

³ 48 Stat. 456.

With a view, therefore, to placing the relations between the United States and the Dominican Republic upon the same basis, with respect to the matters involved, as the relations existing under the treaties and agreements referred to in the preceding paragraph, I have the honor to propose that the provisions of the Agreement between the United States and the Dominican Republic effected by an exchange of notes signed September 25, 1924,* shall not be understood to require the extension to the Dominican Republic of advantages accorded by the United States to the Philippines.

In view of the imminence of the inauguration of an independent Philippine Government, I should be glad to have the reply of your Government to this proposal at an early date.

Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

DEAN ACHESON
Acting Secretary of State

The Honorable
Señor Dr. DON J. R. RODRIGUEZ,
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim
of the Dominican Republic.

The Dominican Ambassador to the Acting Secretary of State

[TRANSLATION]

EMBASSY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
WASHINGTON
October 7, 1946

MR. SECRETARY:

I have the honor to refer to Your Excellency's note of the 4th of May of the present year, and to inform Your Excellency, in conformity with instructions that I have received to that effect, that the Dominican Government agrees that the provisions of the Agreement between the United States and the Dominican Republic, effected by an exchange of notes signed the 25th of September 1924, shall not be understood to imply the extension to the Dominican Republic of the advantages accorded by the United States to the Philippines.

Accept, Mr. Secretary, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

EMILIO G. GODOY

His Excellency DEAN ACHESON,
Acting Secretary of State
of the United States of America,
Washington, D.C.

* TS 700, *ante*, p. 216.